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Foreign Affairs
Cr. & Sp. Branch

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Date 31-1-44 November 25, 1943.

Further to report re dispute over ownership of a piano.

Reference to the attached report re disputed ownership of piano "Mutry", valued \$30,000.00, enquiries were made by the undersigned and the following was ascertained.

The piano is, at the present time, in possession of Mrs. M. Dostal, Czechoslovakian, residing at 23 Rue Cornielle, to whom it was given for safe keeping, at the beginning of this year, by Mr. V. Radzivil, Russian Emigrant, now deceased, whilst he was living at 141-131 Wuchang Rd.

Prior to his death Mr. V. Radzivil was living for about one month with his friend A. G. Zenchenkoff, 732 Embankment Building, and on 21.9.43. made a "Will and Statement", through attorney at law A. A. Melikoff, 88 Paul Henry, according to which all his property, including piano "Mutry" in temporary use of Mrs. Dostal. was bequeathed to Mr. A. G. Zenchenkoff.

Following Mr. V. Radzivil's death, on 22.9.43., Mr. A. G. Zenchenkoff produced the "Will and Testament" at the Procurator's Office of the Shanghai District Court, where it was probated on 25.10.43.

Mrs. M. Dostal was summoned to the Arbitration Court on 30.10.43. but failed to appear, and her representative stated that the piano in question was given to her ^{by} Mr. Radzivil as present. He failed, however, to produce any proofs.

Having sought advice from the Police, and being referred to civil court, Mr. Zenchenkoff entered an action against Mrs. Dostal at the Civil Court, and the case is pending now.

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When Mrs. Dostal was visited by the undersigned on the matter, her representative, Mr. C. Basuan, Soviet citizen, in very insolent manner refused to give any particulars regarding the case, stating that Police has nothing to do with it as the case is being dealt with by the Civil Court. He stated, however, that he was going to dispute the ownership over the piano at the Civil Court, because he had some proofs that the piano was given to Mrs. Dostal by the deceased (Mr. Radzivil) as a present.

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D.S.I.

Officer in charge
Foreign Affairs Branch.